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April 12, 2002

William F. Caton
Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Ex Parte meeting in CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Mr Caton:

On April 12, 2002, a group of consumer parties in CC Docket No. 96-45 met by telephone conference call with Commissioner Nan Thompson of the Regulatory Commission of Alaska to discuss the Notice of the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service concerning the eligibility requirements for Lifeline and Link-Up services. Participants in the conference call from the parties were:

Karen Hardie, Ohio Consumers' Counsel and the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (NASUCA)
Steve Ward, Maine Public Advocate
Lynne Montgomery, Civil Rights Forum on Communications Policy
Barrett Sheridan, Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate
Christopher Day, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops et al
Dian Callaghan, Colorado Office of Consumer Counsel
Ron Binz, representing NASUCA members in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Missouri, Maine and Maryland

The presentations concerned the comments filed by NASUCA, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, et al. and the Civil Rights Forum on Communications Policy. Copies of the parties' filed comments were provided in the meeting along with the attached handout summarizing the positions of these parties.

Sincerely,

Ronald J. Binz

Attachment